Inai Boku wa Hotarumachi ni Iru

"I Don't Exist in This Firefly City" chapter 7

by Tanaka Miho

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Lovelystrangedark.wordpress.com

Chapter 7

Bus Ride

When I was little, I lived with my mom. She raised me as a single mother.

But she left home one day and never came back.

I didn't have any relatives,

so I went to an orphanage.

This guy adopted me

when I was twelve.

SOUSUKE! PICTURE TIME!
Beep
HEY, WHAT'S WRONG?
C'MON, SMILE. SMILE.
FLASH
.....
Aha ha ha ha

IT WAS QUICK.
I HAD A SON HE WAS HIT BY A CAR...
I wami
MY WIFE AND I WOUND UP SEPARATING BECAUSE OF IT,
AND I FIGURED MY LIFE WAS OVER.
SOUSUKE...
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF BAD THINGS HAPPENING
I wami
I'M SO GLAD I MET YOU.

A LETTER?
YEAH, FROM YOUR MOM
Iwami
...
I'M PART OF THE IWAMI FAMILY, NOW... ISN'T THAT ALL THAT MATTERS?
HOW'S READING IT GOING TO CHANGE ANYTHING?
DOESN'T MATTER TO ME.
WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO WITH IT?

WELL THEN,
I'LL LEAVE IT HERE FOR NOW.

BLINK
rattle
FLAP
Iwami Sousuke
.....
CREAK...
SCRIBBLE

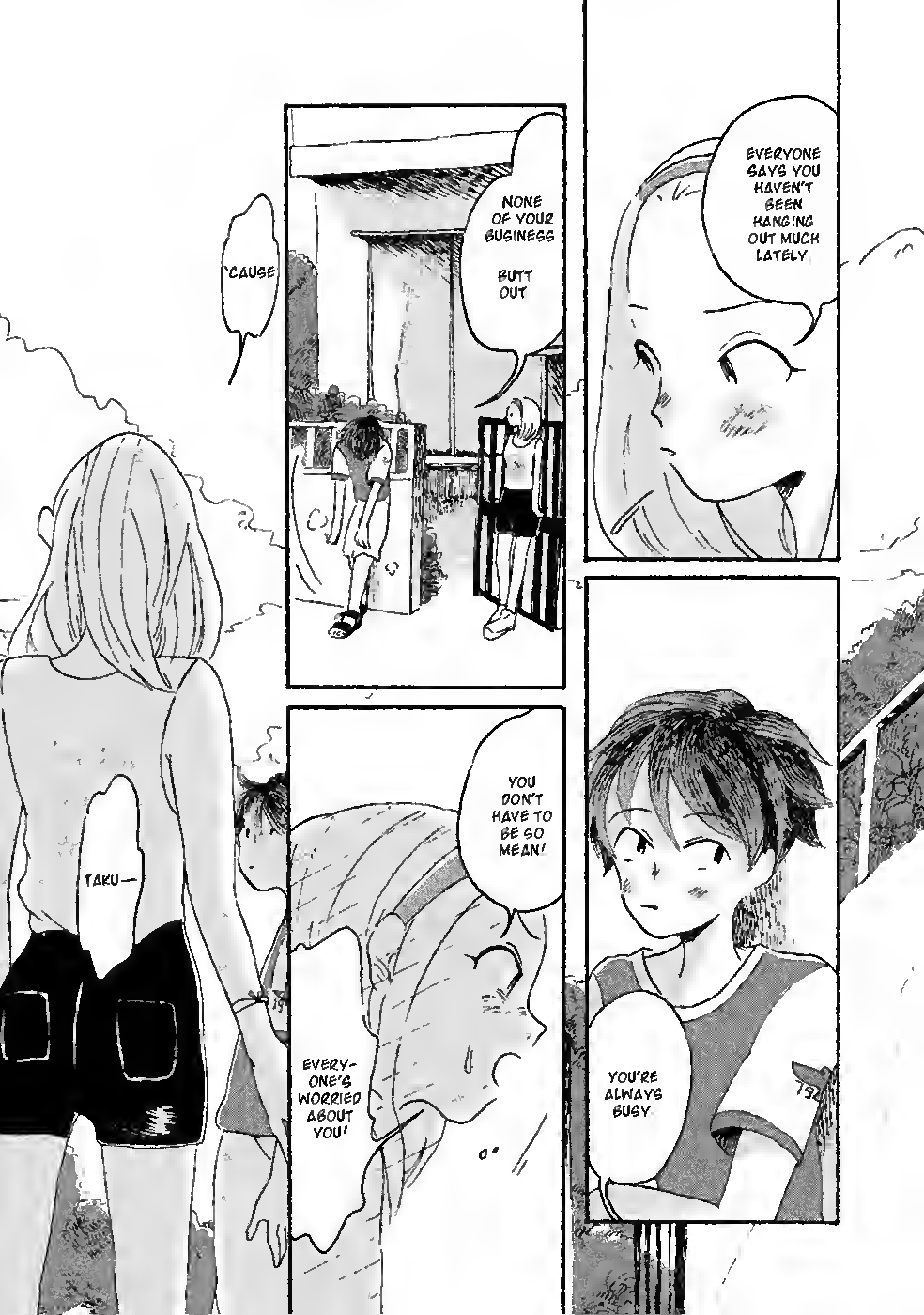
zip zip
zip
NOT THAT THERE'S ANY POINT TO TELLING YOU
I COPIED DOWN HER ADDRESS
I STILL DON'T REALLY KNOW WHY

I WANTED TO SEE HIM AGAIN,
TALK TO HIM AGAIN
ALL THAT'S IN YOUR WORLD
HE REALLY HELPED ME OUT,
AND I OWE HIM A LOT
I GUESS
YOU AND I
HAVE THAT IN COMMON
WHAT'S THE POINT
IN KEEPING IT?
BUT DIDN'T SHE WRITE YOU A LETTER?
Her address...
YOU'RE THROWING IT OUT?
WHY
Crumple
THAT'S
Crumple
BUT WELL JUST FORGET ABOUT ALL THIS
I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT THINGS
Flop

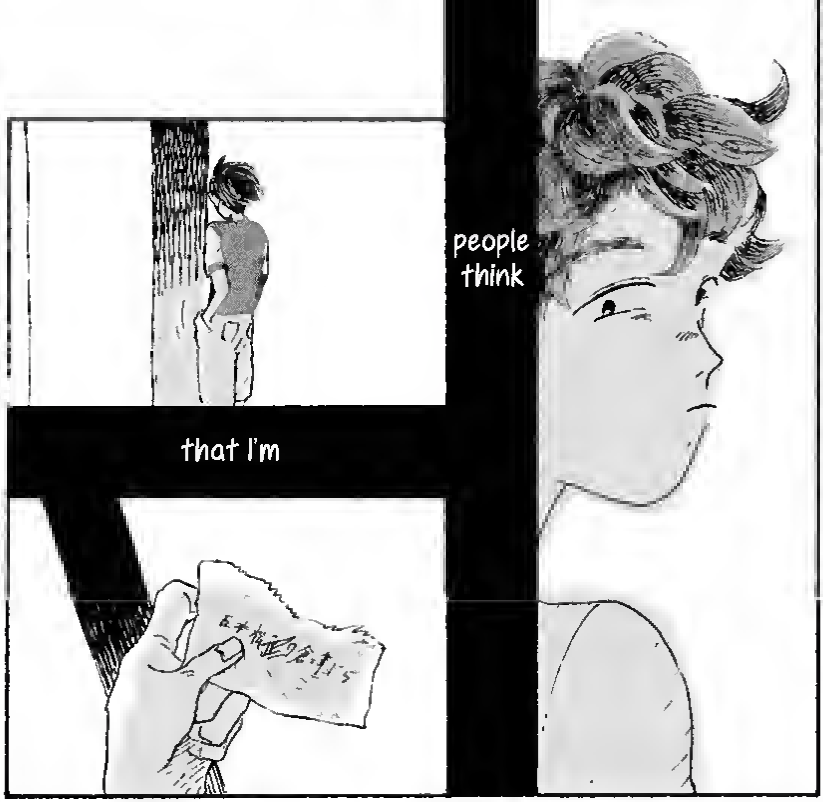
TAKERU,
HOLDING A GRUDGE IS EASY
IT'S FORGIVENESS THAT'S HARD TO COME BY
GOTTA PEE
I PUT IT BACK
NEVER READ IT

WOO
WEE
WOO
YEAH
SURE. BE CAREFUL
psshh
ANDREW
OH
IT'S DARK ALREADY I'M GOING HOME

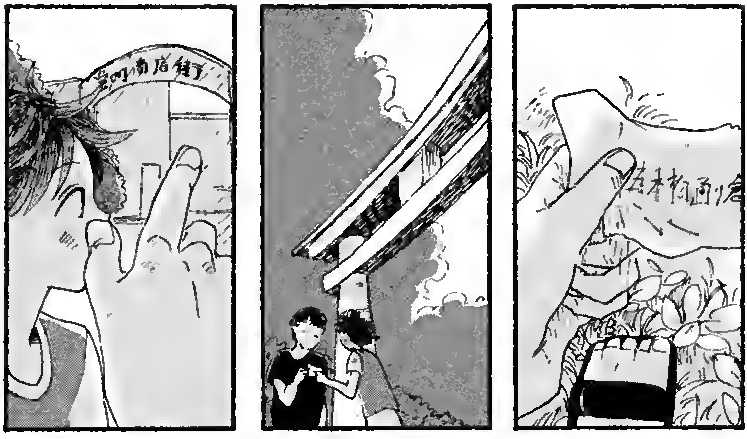
CRINKLE
HUH?
THE POOL?
YOU SHOULD COME
YEAH, WE'RE ALL GOING TOMORROW


EVERYONE SAYS YOU HAVEN'T BEEN HANGING OUT MUCH LATELY
YOU'RE ALWAYS BUSY
NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS
BUTT OUT
'CAUSE
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE SO MEAN!
EVERY-ONE'S WORRIED ABOUT YOU!
TAKU—

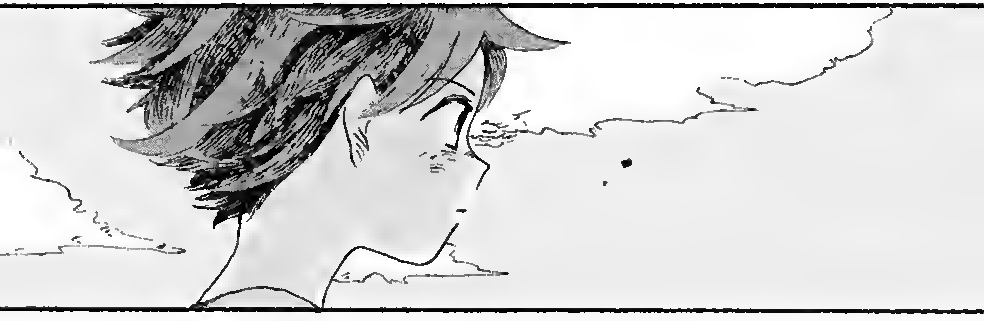
NO NEED!!
YOU FEEL SORRY FOR ME!?
WHAT.
...
LEMME ALONE
S_
SORRY FOR YOU~!?
Mayb
...


people think
that I'm

A SAD KID...



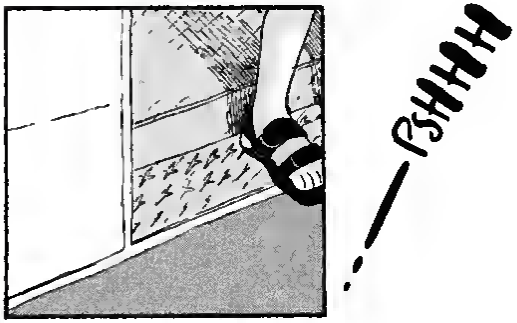
"There's a bus stop just past the city market."

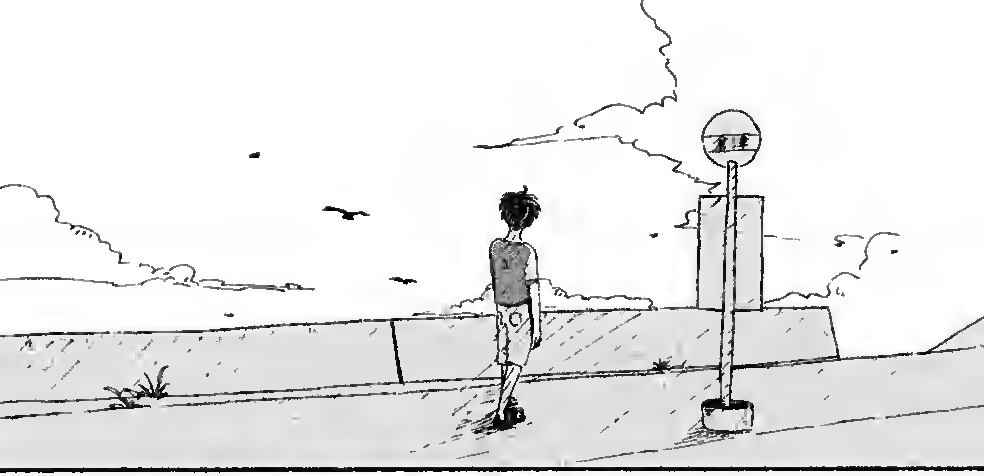


"You'll have ta take a cauple different buses.
Ask the driver."

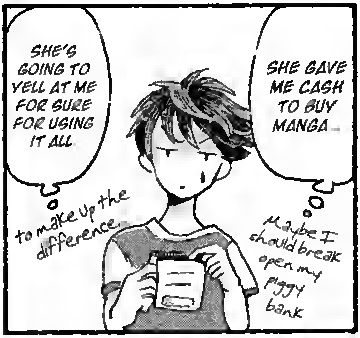
A lat af stuff has happened lately

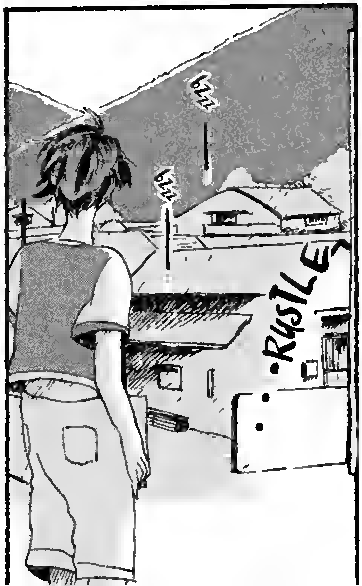
that I dan't like.

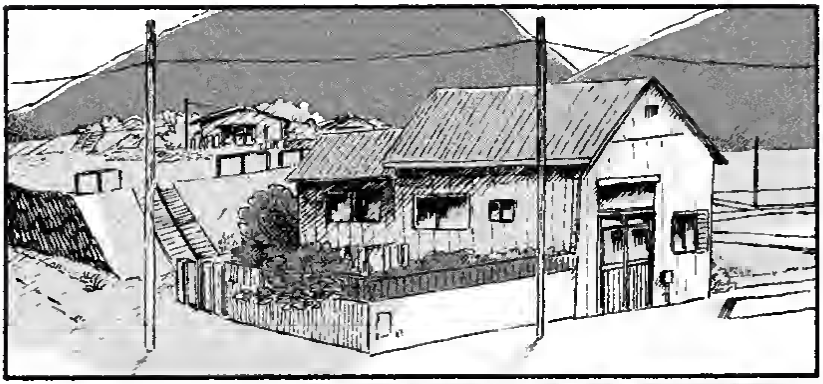


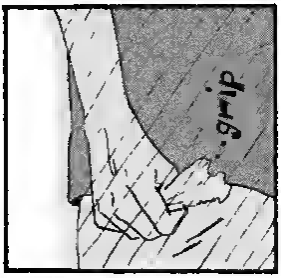


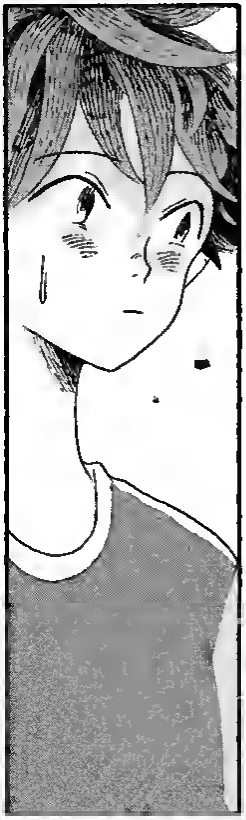
...SO...
WHERE AM I?


SHE'S GOING TO YELL AT ME FOR SURE FOR USING IT ALL
to make up the difference...
SHE GAVE ME CASH TO BUY MANGA...
Maybe I should break open my piggy bank

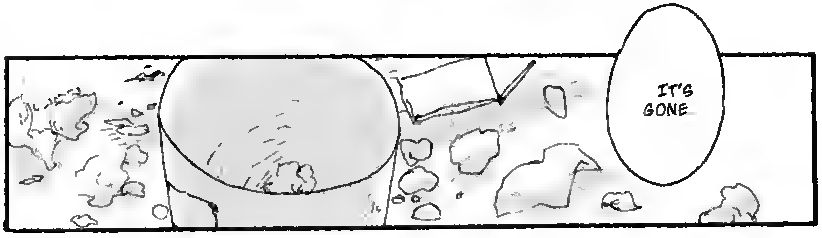

RUSTLE




drip.

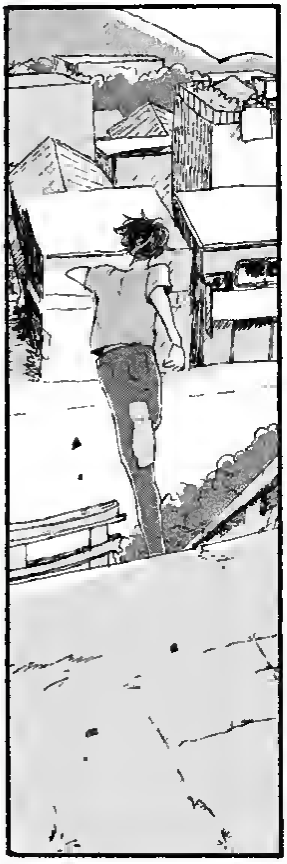


CRUNCH


IT'S GONE

oh!
DASH
WAIT,
WAIT,
WAIT!
CALM DOWN!
had
had

WHERE THAT KID LIVES!!
I DON'T ACTUALLY KNOW



……

SHIT!
GAH!!

I ONLY LEFT HIM ALONE FOR A MINUTE, TOO..
WAIT— MAYBE HE

FSHU
~~~!
WHAT
ARE YOU DOING!?
~~~

WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE!?
THIS IS NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
...
...
I COULDN'T DO IT
I MEAN, WHAT WOULD I SAY TO HER?

I DON'T EVEN REALLY KNOW
WHAT I WAS TRYING TO DO...
THE GUY WHO THREW THE BALL AT YOU...
...
IT'S HIM.
HE'S THE ONE WHO DIED IN MY WORLD... AND IS ALIVE HERE.

ANDREW,
IT'S BECAUSE YOUR OLD MAN SAVED HIM,
..SPLSH...
I'M NOT GOING TO VISIT
YOUR WORLD ANYMORE
..SPLSH

...ALL IT DOES
IS MAKE ME MISERABLE.

I'M LUCKY HE TOOK ME IN AS HIS SON
BUT YOU KNOW, EVEN AFTER ALL THIS, I'M STILL LUCKY.
YOU KNOW?
rub
THE ME IN YOUR WORLD WILL NEVER KNOW THAT HAPPINESS
LET'S HEAD BACK
YEAH